

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 13 October 1949

SUBJECT Arrest of Members of New Democratic League on
Taiwan and Quiescence of the Formosan League
for Re-emancipation

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1. The Peace Preservation Corps of Taiwan, under Deputy Commander PENG Meng-chi, have arrested five Japanese-educated Taiwanese intellectuals for alleged Communist connection. These men are leaders of a group engaged in forming the New Democratic League (NDL)*. Five other leaders escaped.

2. Just before the raids that led to the arrests, PENG was warned by an influential resident of Taiwan, closely associated with the NDL, that arrest of independence leaders would cause widespread unrest. PENG promised to arrest only those with definite Communist connections, but proof of any connections with Communists in the cases of those arrested and threatened with arrest was not substantial.

3. The NDL consists of over 100 Taiwanese who have returned from Japan since the end of the war. These men are active in business and educational circles. PENG holds a complete list of the membership.

4. Members of the Formosan League for Re-emancipation, until recently very active in their contacts with Americans on Taiwan, have not been seen for the past two weeks.

Comment. [] tells of the formation of the People's Democratic League, similar to the NDL, but consisting of students.

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